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PATENT APPLICATION
Q67634

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masato YOSHIKAWA, et al.

Appln. No. 10/066,380

Confirmation No.: 4529

Filed: February 5, 2002

For: APPARATUS AND PROCESS FOR FILM DEPOSITION

Group Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief:

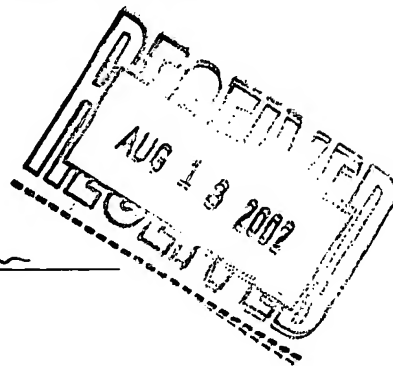
Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven M. Gruskin
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Date: August 8, 2002



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) (substitute for Form PTO-1449) that the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d); or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 and, therefore, no Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required. However,

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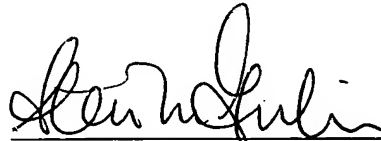


inasmuch as a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) can be made, Applicants are submitting the same concurrently herewith

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants also enclose herewith a copy of a European Search Report (ESR) dated June 4, 2002, issued by the European Patent Office (EPO) in a counterpart foreign application (EP 02 25 0764) citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that portion of the ESR indicating the degree of relevance found by the EPO.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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